BLIND SPOT

Volume 2 Issue 7 November 2002 $0.00 independent, commercial-free news for K-W and area

independent media centre

Anti-war, pro-peace momentum mounting

So this is what it was like in the '60s

In a pre-emptive strike for peace, hundreds of thousands marched throughout the world on October 26 to protest George Bush's ill-conceived war against the people of Iraq. Over 100,000 marched and surrounded the White House in Washington D.C., while on the opposite coast in San Francisco a like number marched through the streets of the city.

Demonstrations were also held elsewhere throughout the United States, as well as in Europe. The fact that these marches are happening before a war begins may mean that if a war breaks out, street conflicts in the U.S. and elsewhere will follow.

WWW.INDYMEDIA.ORG

also see www.internationalanswer.org

On October 6 and 7, nearly 100,000 people gathered across the United States to pledge resistance to endless war, detentions and round-ups, attacks on civil liberties and war on Iraq.

WWW.NOTINOURNAME.NET

As the Bush administration threatens a massive attack on Iraq, many within the corporate media have chosen to become cheerleaders for the war cause.

A group of independent journalists and activists — spearheaded by Voices in the Wilderness and the internationally acclaimed Iraq Peace Team — are breaking ranks with the war chorus. Coordinated by independent journalist Jeremy Scahill on the ground in Baghdad, *IraqJournal* provides a forum for the distribution of independent information and views from Iraq.

WWW.IRAQJOURNAL.ORG

The October edition of *the INDYPENDENT*, the New York City Indymedia newspaper, focuses entirely on the growing possibility of war with Iraq. It is 20 pages, 8.5 x 11 inches, available online at: **nyc.indymedia.org/local/webcast/uploads/octindy8x11.pdf**

NYC.INDYMEDIA.ORG

U.S. people don't want war

American Republican and Democratic Senate offices report "overwhelming" opposition from their constituents to war with Iraq.

The national news radio show *Democracy Now!* conducted an informal survey of 70 Republican and Democratic Senate offices.

Of the 26 offices which responded, 22 reported an overwhelming majority — in some cases up to 99 percent — of constituents opposed to war in Iraq; three said the response was split and just one office reported a majority called backing the war.

WWW.DEMOCRACYNOW.ORG

November Community Event Listings INSIDE

Imagine the IMPACT

Local independent media consolidates

Grand River IMPACT — Independent Media and Public Advocates Collaborating Together — is a newly formed group that merges the efforts of the K-W Independent Media Centre and the K-W Solidarity Network.

The mission of the group is "to promote social and environmental justice, through communication and networking between individuals, grassroots groups, and agencies in the Waterloo Region and beyond."

IMPACT CONTACT INFO
(519) 244-1140, impact@indymedia.ca
IMPACT.INDYMEDIA.CA

The Blind Spot newspaper has been published monthly/bimonthly since February 2001, with both physical and virtual distribution: archives at: **ontario.indymedia.org/blindspot**

Ontario.indymedia.org is an online open-publishing environment where anyone can report on their own stories.

Printed event listings, like those inside this paper, are made for personal use and/or display in public areas. The listings go hand-in-hand with the online events calendar, **CommunityEvents.ca**

Visit the IMPACT web site or contact us to find out more about IMPACT activities.

Story Shorts

FROM THE ONTARIO INDEPENDENT MEDIA CENTRE AND OTHER SOURCES

independent media centre

ONTARIO.INDYMEDIA.ORG

CKMS radio 100.3 FM turns 25

ckmsfm.uwaterloo.ca

Tuesday, October 15 at 9 p.m. marked the exact date and time when CKMS, Radio Waterloo officially began broadcasting a radio signal on the FM band throughout the Waterloo region 25 years ago, making it one of the oldest campus radio stations in all of Canada.

Conrad Grebel offering conflict management workshops

ontario.indymedia.org # 12898

The Peace and Conflict Studies Program at Conrad Grebel University College at the University of Waterloo offers non-academic workshops to people in the community. These can be taken as part of the Certificate Program in Conflict Management, or on their own.

For more , contact **(519) 880-0220 x254** or **certprog@uwaterloo.ca**

NOURISH, the launch of SPIRIT magazine

ontario.indymedia.org # 12998

On November 29 in Toronto, a new magazine will be launched: SPIRIT magazine is an Aboriginal-based national arts, culture and current affairs magazine, adding colour to the Canadian media by highlighting and celebrating diversity.

NOURISH is the title for the event that will launch the premier issue of SPIRIT.

For more, contact (705) 746-2781, **(416)463-1955, spiritmagazine@hotmail.com**

The illusion of hard choices on health care

ontario.indymedia.org #12999

Revealing the disturbing absence of facts in most media analysis of our health care choices, facts that could provide the public with alternative economic solutions to our social safety net. Showing that the illusion of "hard choices" is a political design and not inevitable against the rise in public awareness, activism, and organization.

October 18 was Persons Day

Persons Day celebrates the legal action taken by five Canadian women — Emily Murphy, Nellie McClung, Irene Parlby, Louise McKinney and Henrietta Muir Edwards — to have women declared "persons" under the law. Their actions were rewarded on October 18, 1929, when the Privy Council of Britain ruled the word "persons" must also apply to women as well as men.

October 18 was also Media Democracy Day

www.mediademocracyday.org

Media Democracy Day is a day of international action, started in 2001, based on three themes:

- Education — understanding how the media shapes our world and our democracy.
- Protest — against a media system based on commercialization and exclusiveness.
- Change — calls for media reforms that respond to public interests, promote diversity, and ensure community representation and accountability.

Frankenfoods week in Waterloo

ontario.indymedia.org # 13004

An action took place at two Zehrs stores in the K-W region to promote consumer awareness concerning the labeling of GE ingredients in all foods.

Charlie Smoke deportation?

ontario.indymedia.org # 12565, 13009

Sunkmanitu tanka Isnala Najin (Charlie "Wolf" Smoke) is of Lakota, Mohawk, and Seneca ancestry, and currently lives in Regina, Saskatchewan. He has been harassed and targeted by both Canadian and American authorities for his adamant refusal to be defined as either "American" or "Canadian".

Interview with K-OS

ontario.indymedia.org # 12651

Toronto hip hop artist K-OS visited Waterloo.

WLU Staff Association strike comes to end

ontario.indymedia.org # 13025

Early in the morning on Monday November 4, a tentative agreement was ratified to end the strike, which had been ongoing for seven weeks.

Pope Squat evicted

www.ocap.ca / ontario.indymedia.org

On Friday, November 1, at 1p.m., the 'Pope Squat' was evicted by police under order from the Fire Marshal. The eviction came after the Fire Marshal ordered a 24-hour "Fire Watch" security detail at the building earlier in the week.

Last week, police raided and ransacked the building, gaining entry because of an altercation involving a firearm. Earlier this week, the water was also shut off.

The 'Pope Squat' started in July, when the Ontario Coalition Against Poverty occupied the building during the visit of the Pope. Abandoned and owing back taxes, ownership had reverted to the Province of Ontario. Neither the City of Toronto nor the province has spent a dime to turn the building into badly-needed social housing, but considerable money was spent evicting tenants on Friday.